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**REPLY**

The Examiner apparently withdrew claims 15-20 as being directed to a non-elected invention.

The Examiner rejected claim 21 under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Shishido '865.

The Examiner rejected claim 22 under 35 USC §103 as being unpatentable over Shishido '865 in view of King, Jr.

Shishido '865 discloses an athletic ball having a detector for detecting an application of external force to the ball. A housing 38 is molded integrally with or adhered to the airtight bladder 63. (Shishido '865, column 5, lines 67-68, column 6, lines 1-2) As illustrated in Fig. 11 of Shishido '865, the circuit unit 3, containing the impact sensor 57, is held within the housing 38 and bladder 63 by cover 39 placed in a hole in the surface layer 28. The circuit unit 3 is accessible externally by removing the cover 39. The cover 39 is indicated as being transparent so that the display panel 6 is readily visible. The bladder 63 is attached to the housing 38 in which the circuit 3 is placed. The active circuit unit 3 contains a battery 15 and the impact sensor 57.

Claims 21 and 22 have been cancelled. New claims 23-27 have been added to more particularly define the present invention.

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The present invention as recited in new independent claim 23 is not anticipated by Shishido '865. New independent claim 23 recites a first bladder portion conforming substantially to the internal surface of the external covering and a second bladder portion extending along a chord between the first bladder portion, in combination with a passive detectable electronic location sensor fitted in the second bladder portion. Support for the new independent claim 23 is found in the specification, and particularly with reference to Picture 6.

The present invention is structurally and functionally distinct from Shishido '865. The present invention, as recited in new independent claim 23, is for a completely different purpose than the ball disclosed in Shishido '865. The ball and detector disclosed in Shishido '865 are for detecting and counting the application of an external force. Therefore an active detector is used in combination with a display panel for displaying numerical information relating to the external force. Shishido '856 does not disclose a ball having an externally inaccessible passive location sensor as recited in new independent claim 23 of the present invention. The structure of the present invention as recited in new independent claim 23 is substantially less complicated than the device disclosed in Shishido '865 and is undetectable from a visual inspection of the ball. This is

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advantageous as any external force on the ball will not affect the internally located embedded passive location sensor.

New dependent claim 24 recites the additional feature that the sensor is located midway along the chord. Accordingly, dependent claim 24 assures that the sensor is sufficiently isolated so as to prevent any damage. New dependent claims 25-26 add additional structural limitations not disclosed in any of the references cited.

Accordingly, new claims 23-27 should be allowable in view of the references cited. None of the referenced cited disclose or would lead to the more specific structure of the invention as recited in new claims 23-27. The structure recited in the new claims provides for a rugged more reliable electronically detectable ball that is relatively easily and inexpensively manufactured. The structure of the ball, so that the passive detectable electronic location sensor is inaccessible from outside of the electronically detectable ball is advantageous in that the ball does not appear externally any different than a typical ball.

New independent claim 27 has been added to more particularly recite a more specific embodiment of the present invention. In new claim 27, the central location of the sensor assures that the weight of the sensor will have no effect on the travel or rotation of the ball.

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Withdrawn claims 15-20 have been cancelled in an effort to expedite this application, and without prejudice to filing a divisional application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider the present application enter this Amendment and Reply and indicate allowable subject matter.

Respectfully submitted,



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